

Serial No. 09/807,946
Amendment Dated November 30, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 23, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated polynucleotide comprising:
 - (a) ~~a first nucleotide sequence encoding a first polypeptide comprising at least 50 amino acids, wherein the amino acid sequence of the first polypeptide and SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, or SEQ ID NO:12 have at least 70% identity based on the Clustal alignment method,~~
 - (b) ~~a second nucleotide sequence encoding a second polypeptide comprising at least 100 amino acids, wherein the amino acid sequence of the second polypeptide and SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18, or SEQ ID NO:20 have at least 70% identity based on the Clustal alignment method,~~
 - (c) ~~a third nucleotide sequence encoding a third polypeptide comprising at least 180 amino acids, wherein the amino acid sequence of the third polypeptide and SEQ ID NO:24 have at least 70% identity based on the Clustal alignment method,~~
 - (d) ~~a fourth nucleotide sequence encoding a fourth polypeptide comprising at least 230 amino acids, wherein the amino acid sequence of the fourth polypeptide and SEQ ID NO:22 have at least 70% identity based on the Clustal alignment method, or~~
 - (e) ~~a fifth a nucleotide sequence encoding a fifth polypeptide comprising at least 100 amino acids, wherein the amino acid sequence of the fifth~~

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polypeptide and SEQ ID NO:6, ~~SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:10~~ have
at least 80% identity based on the Clustal alignment method.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1, ~~wherein the first polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:4, or SEQ ID NO:12, wherein the second polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:18, or SEQ ID NO:20, wherein the third polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:24, wherein the fourth polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:22, and wherein the fifth polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:10.~~
4. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1, ~~wherein the first nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:3, or SEQ ID NO:11, wherein the second nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:17, or SEQ ID NO:19, wherein the third nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:23, wherein the fourth nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:21, and wherein the fifth nucleotide sequence comprises SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:7, or SEQ ID NO:9.~~
5. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of Claim 1, wherein the ~~first, second, third, fourth, and fifth polypeptides are~~ is a WUS proteins protein.
6. (Currently Amended) The complement of the polynucleotide of any one of Claims ~~1-5~~ 1, 3, 4, or 5, wherein the complement and the polynucleotide consist of the same number of nucleotides and are 100% ~~complimentary~~ complementary.

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7. (Currently Amended) The isolated polynucleotide of any one of Claims 4-5 1, 3, 4, or 5, wherein the polynucleotide is a functional RNA.
8. (Original) The complement of Claim 6, wherein the complement is a functional RNA.
9. (Currently Amended) A method for transiently modulating the level of WUS protein in a plant cell comprising introducing the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 7 into a the plant cell.
10. (Currently Amended) A method for transiently modulating the level of WUS protein in a plant cell comprising introducing the isolated polynucleotide of Claim 8 into a the plant cell.
11. (Currently Amended) A chimeric gene comprising the polynucleotide of any one of Claims 4-5 1, 3, 4, or 5 operably linked to a suitable regulatory sequence.
12. (Original) A transgenic plant comprising the chimeric gene of claim 11.
13. (Original) The transgenic plant of Claim 12, wherein the plant is corn, soybean, wheat, rice, alfalfa, sunflower, canola, or cotton.
14. (Original) A seed from the transgenic plant of Claim 12.
15. (Original) The seed of Claim 14, wherein the seed is from corn, soybean, wheat, rice, alfalfa, sunflower, canola, or cotton.

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16-18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method for inducing meristem proliferation in a plant cell comprising:
- (a) transforming a plant cell with the chimeric gene of Claim 11, and
 - (b) ~~inducing the expression of~~ expressing the polynucleotide for a time sufficient to produce a transformed meristem.
20. (Original) The method of Claim 19 further comprising growing the transformed meristem under plant growing conditions to produce a regenerated plant.
21. (Original) A plant produced by the method of Claim 20.
22. (Original) The plant of Claim 21, wherein the plant is corn, soybean, wheat, rice, alfalfa, sunflower, canola, or cotton.
23. (Currently Amended) A method for positive selection of a transformed cell, comprising:
- (a) transforming a plant cell with the chimeric gene of Claim 11, and
 - (b) ~~inducing expression of~~ expressing the polynucleotide for a time sufficient to induce organogenesis ~~a~~ and provide a positive selection means.
24. (Original) The method of Claim 23 wherein the polynucleotide is excised.
25. (Original) The method of Claim 24 wherein the polynucleotide is flanked by FRT sequences to allow FLP mediated excision of the polynucleotide.

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26. (Currently Amended) A method for transforming a cell comprising introducing the polynucleotide of any one of Claims 4-5 1, 3, 4, or 5 into a the cell.
27. (Original) The cell produced by the method of Claim 26.
28. (Currently Amended) A method for transforming a cell comprising introducing the complement of Claim 6 into a the cell.
29. (Original) The cell produced by the method of Claim 28.
- 30-35. (Cancelled)